

Appli. No. 09/524,716

Amendment dated January 15, 2004

Reply to Office action of July 15, 2003

REMARKS

This paper follows the Office Action mailed July 15, 2003 and is accompanied by a request for a 3-month extension of time. Claims 1-17, 20-21, 23-24 and 26-33 have been canceled. Claims 18, 19, 22 and 25 have been previously allowed.

The Applicants request that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowance for the above-identified application with allowed claims 18, 19, 22 and 25.

Respectfully submitted,

Ross Products Division of
ABBOTT LABORATORIES
Department 108140/DS1
625 Cleveland Avenue
Columbus, OH 43215-1724

Telephone: 614/624-3012
Facsimile: 614/624-3074

Docket: 6671US01


by Nick L. Parlet
Reg. 44,996